

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WINNIE-STOWELL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Winnie-Stowell Hospital District (“District”) was noticed and filed pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act a full 72 hours prior to the opening of said meeting for 9:00 a.m. on the 17th of August, 2017 at the Winnie Community Hospital (“Hospital”) Conference Room, Broadway, Winnie Texas (a copy of said Notice being placed amongst the files of the District).

The roll was called of the members of the Board, to wit:

Ed Murrell, President
Jeff Rollo, Vice-President
Raul Espinosa, Secretary
Sharon Burgess, Director
Anthony Stramecki, Director

All said Board members were present with the exception of Director Stramecki. In addition, to the above named Board members, also present at the meeting were: Sherrie Norris, District Administrator; Yani Jiminez, Indigent Care Director; Janet Bergeron; Ray Bergeron; Hazel Meaux; Gloria Roemer, Seabreeze Beacon.

At approximately 9:00 a.m., a quorum was established and President Murrell made introductions that were followed by a request for public comment. In response, Janet Bergeron and Hazel Meaux asked to speak. Mrs. Bergeron requested that the Board hold a public forum to discuss, among other things, the construction of the emergency room and concerns involving the District’s participation in the nursing home upper payment limit program. Next, Mrs. Meaux once again complained about the Board’s alleged lack of transparency. In addition, Mrs. Meaux recorded the entire meeting.

Following the Public Comment, President Murrell called on Administrator Norris to address Agenda Item 3, to discuss and take action, if necessary, on approving the DY6 IGT

Commitment Form for the 1115 Waiver Program on behalf of the Winnie Community Hospital. Attorney Oxford informed the Board that on August 14, 2017, the District received an e-mail from the Texas Health and Human Service Commission calling for the second Intergovernmental Transfer (“IGT”) for the Winnie Community Hospital’s participation in the 1115 Waiver Program (i.e., Uncompensated Care Program) for DY6. According to Attorney Oxford, the this meeting was necessary because the District had to file an IGT Commitment form with the State of Texas no later than August 21st, 2017 declaring its intent to make IGT and how much. With this said, Attorney Oxford spent time reminding the Board, and those present, that the District made the IGTs on behalf of the Hospital in order to enable the Hospital to recover its out of pocket cost for treating the uninsured as required by the federal government in order to receive Medicare payments. In so doing, he provided the Board with the statutory authority as well as an explanation of the state mandated Affiliation Agreement between the District and the Hospital. Per Attorney Oxford, in the agreement, it states that the District could not benefit from the supplemental funds nor could it place conditions on any indigent care given as a result of making the IGT on behalf the Hospital. (See **Exhibits “A” and “B”**). For example, the District could not make the IGT and demand that the supplemental payment be used for the Emergency Room construction project.

Furthermore, Attorney Oxford presented the Board with a document that illustrated the amount of IGTs made since June of 2013 and the supplemental returns received by the Hospital. In total, not including the IGT for the second payment of DY6, the District has made \$986,249.07 in IGT payments since June 2013 that have returned \$2,345,076.53 in supplemental funds to the Hospital. (See **Exhibit “C”**). As for the upcoming IGT, Attorney Oxford explained that the maximum amount of the IGT be made on September 8, 2017 was \$531,987.61.

However, the amount the District would actually IGT on behalf of the Winnie Community Hospital would be approximately 40% less, or \$319,152.00, which would generate over \$700,000.00 in uncompensated care payments. At the conclusion of Attorney Oxford's presentation, President Murrell called for a motion to authorize staff to file the IGT Commitment Form for up to \$531,987.61. Director Rollo made a motion to approve the filing of the IGT Commitment form for up to \$531,987.61 but before the motion was seconded, Director Rollo expressed his gratitude to the Hospital for all that it had done for the resident of Winnie, Texas. Furthermore, Director Rollo spent time refreshing the Board and others present of all that the Hospital and District have done to work toward the goal of providing better healthcare to the residents of the District. Once Director Rollo was finished expressing his appreciation, Director Espinoza seconded the motion with the unanimous consent of all Board Members present.

Thereafter, President Murrell called on the Board to discuss Agenda Item No. 4, to discuss and take action, if necessary, on making the second IGT on behalf of the Winnie Community Hospital for the DY6 1115 Waiver Program by September 7, 2017. Attorney Oxford reminded the Board that they would need to amend their budget at their upcoming meeting because the budget called for \$275,000.00 in 1115 Waiver IGTs but the cost for the year would actually be closer to \$410,000.00. With this said, Attorney Oxford recommended that this Agenda Item be tabled. In response, a motion was made by Director to Rollo to table Agenda Item No. 4. This motion was seconded by Director Espinoza with the unanimous consent of all those present.

Before a motion was called to adjourn, President Murrell called on Mrs. Bergeron for a public comment. Mrs. Bergeron once again expressed her concern about supporting the Hospital by making the second IGT for DY6 and the need to make sure that any District funds paid to the

Hospital were properly spent. Afterwards, a dialogue occurred between Mrs. Bergeron and the Board discussing the District's appreciation for her concerns and the fact that the Board listens to the concerns of the community and in fact, often acts based on the concerns raised by community members that regularly attend meetings.

There being no other business, President Murrell advised the Board that the next Regularly Scheduled Board meeting would be on August 30, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. At 9:55 a.m., a motion was then made by Director Burgess to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Director Espinoza with the unanimous consent of all Board members.


Edward Murrell, President


Jeff Rollo, Vice-President